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Agricultural development and food security

Sudan:* draft resolution

Agriculture development and food security

The General Assembly,

Welcoming the establishment of the agenda item and the discussions that have been undertaken on agriculture development and food security in the General Assembly,

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[1] Agenda 21,[2] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[3] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[5] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[6] the 2005 World Summit Outcome[7] and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[8]

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] See resolution 60/1.

[8] Resolution 63/239, annex.

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Reaffirming the goal set out in paragraph 19 of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[9] to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

Recalling the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action,[10] the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later,[11] including the goal of achieving food security for all through an ongoing effort to eradicate hunger in all countries, with an immediate view to reducing by half the number of undernourished people by no later than 2015, as well as the commitment to achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing that agriculture plays a crucial role in addressing the needs of a growing global population and is inextricably linked to poverty eradication, especially in developing countries, and stressing that integrated and sustainable agriculture and rural development approaches are therefore essential to achieving enhanced food security and food safety in an environmentally sustainable way,

Concerned that the number of people living in hunger is increasing and that global food security is facing the greatest challenge in modern history, affecting more than one billion people in the world, mostly in developing countries,

Reaffirming the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain his or her physical and mental capacities,

Taking note, in this regard, of the recommendations contained in the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 2004,[12] including the recommendations on international measures, actions and commitments,

Recognizing that addressing the multifaceted causes of food insecurity requires a comprehensive approach and the adoption of lasting political, economic, social, financial and technical solutions, involving all stakeholders,

Recognizing also the importance of an enabling international and national environment to increase and sustain investment in the agriculture sector of developing countries, and the need to ensure that trade is supportive of agriculture through greater market access and the elimination of trade-distorting subsidies,

Emphasizing the urgent need to increase efforts at the national, regional and international level to address food security and agriculture development as an integral part of the international development agenda,

Recognizing the need to strengthen multilateral coordination for food security, including enhancing the coherence, coordination, efficiency and effectiveness of

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[9] See resolution 55/2.

[10] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit, 13-17 November 1996* (WFS 96/REP), part one, appendix.

[11] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit: five years later, 10-13 June 2002*, part one, appendix; see also A/57/499, annex.

[12] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Session, Rome, 22-27 November 2004* (CL 127/REP), appendix D; see also E/CN.4/2005/131, annex.

policies and actions taken to address food security by all actors at all levels of the food chain, building on existing structures,

Recognizing also, in this regard, that a reformed Committee on World Food Security is the central United Nations political platform dealing with food security and nutrition,

Remaining deeply concerned at the high volatility of global food prices, including in basic food commodities, owing to, inter alia, structural and systemic problems,

Remaining deeply concerned about the impact of the global financial and economic crisis, climate change and the ongoing food crisis on agricultural development and food security, in particular in developing countries, and reiterating that the multiple and complex causes require a comprehensive and coordinated response in the short, medium and long term by national Governments and the international community,

Remaining concerned that volatile food prices and the global multidimensional crises pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger, as well as to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and achieve the objective of reducing by half the number of undernourished people by no later than 2015 as well as other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and reiterating that the global food crisis has multiple and complex causes and that its consequences require a comprehensive and coordinated response in the short, medium and long term by national Governments and the international community,

Taking note with appreciation of the work undertaken by relevant international bodies and organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Food Programme, on agricultural development and enhancing food security,

Noting the establishment by the Secretary-General of the High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis,

Welcoming the outcome of the seventeenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development on the thematic cluster of issues on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa,

Taking note of the final Declaration adopted at the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Porto Alegre, Brazil, on 10 March 2006,[13]

Emphasizing that the United Nations can play an effective role in building a global consensus in addressing agricultural development and food security,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on agriculture development and food security;[14]

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[13] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, Porto Alegre, Brazil, 7–10 March 2006* (C 2006/REP), appendix G.

[14] A/64/223.

11. *Calls for* actions at the national, regional and international levels to intensify public and private investment in the agriculture sector, including through public-private partnerships;

12. *Encourages* international, regional and national efforts to strengthen the capacity of developing countries, and particularly their small-scale producers, to enhance the productivity of food crops, and to promote sustainable practices in pre-harvest and post-harvest agricultural activities;

13. *Underscores* the importance of support for agriculture research, and calls for continued support for international agricultural research systems, especially for increasing productivity and sustainable agriculture in food crops, including through the international research centres of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, as well as other relevant international research organizations;

14. *Recognizes* that appropriate, affordable and sustainable agriculture technology can play an important role in helping developing countries eradicate poverty and hunger and achieving global food security, and calls upon the international community to make greater efforts to promote the development and transfer of appropriate technologies and know-how to developing countries;

15. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening North-South as well as South-South and triangular cooperation, and enhancing support from the United Nations development system in promoting cooperation in agriculture development and food security;

16. *Encourages* the international community to intensify its support for developing countries' efforts to establish and strengthen national social safety nets and protection programmes for the needy and vulnerable, such as food and cash for work, cash transfer and voucher programmes, school feeding programmes and mother-and-child nutrition programmes;

17. *Underlines* that a rules-based international trading system that is universal, open, undistorted, non-discriminatory, equitable and fair, especially in agriculture products, will promote agriculture and rural development in developing countries and contribute to world food security, and urges national, regional and international strategies to promote the participation of farmers, especially smallholders and women, in community, domestic, regional and international markets;

18. *Expresses concern* that despite significant efforts, the Doha Development Agenda of multilateral trade negotiations has not yet been concluded, and recognizing the urgency of and reaffirming its commitment to reaching a successful and timely conclusion to the Doha Round of World Trade Organization negotiations with an ambitious, balanced and development-oriented outcome;

19. *Recognizes* that greater international market access is also critical, that there is still a long way to go to achieve the sort of pro-development trade policies which are meant to be the outcome of the Doha Development Round, that further progress is urgently needed in opening agricultural markets, notably the markets of developed countries to the agricultural exports of developing ones, and in reducing trade-distorting subsidies, and that all countries need to be cognizant of and seek to address the particular market access needs and concerns of the least developed countries, landlocked countries and small island developing States;

20. *Calls for* the immediate elimination of all forms of agricultural subsidies and other market-distorting measures by developed countries, and urges the developed countries to demonstrate the necessary flexibility and political will to address meaningfully these key concerns of developing countries at the Doha Round of trade negotiations;

21. *Recognizes* the need for Africa to embark on a green revolution to help boost agricultural productivity, food production and regional food security, and welcomes the fact that strong leadership has been taken by African countries to address the challenges of sustainable agricultural development and to achieve food security through initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, that can provide an effective framework for ensuring that resources are targeted to a country's plans and priorities, and calls upon the international community to support Africa in the implementation of the various programmes under the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

22. *Notes* the adoption of the Windhoek High-level Ministerial Declaration on African Agriculture in the Twenty-first Century: Meeting the Challenges, Making a Sustainable Green Revolution, on 10 February 2009,[15] and the holding of the Presidential Summit on Sovereignty and Food Security: Foods for Life in Managua on 7 May 2008;

23. *Reaffirms* its commitments to promote and protect, without discrimination, the economic, social and cultural rights of indigenous peoples in accordance with international human rights obligations and, taking into account, as appropriate, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, acknowledges that many indigenous organizations and representatives of indigenous communities have expressed in different forums their deep concerns over the obstacles and challenges they face for the full enjoyment of the right to food, and calls upon States to take special actions to combat the root causes of the disproportionately high level of hunger and malnutrition among indigenous peoples and the continuous discrimination against them;

24. *Reiterates* the importance of developing countries determining their own food security strategies in their efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger and acknowledges national and regional efforts by developing countries to implement long-term policies and measures that contribute to food security and agricultural development, such as the food security fund of some Latin American and Caribbean countries, the Latin American and the Caribbean without Hunger Initiative, the Sirte Declaration on Investing in Agriculture for Economic Growth and Food Security, adopted at the thirteenth ordinary session of the Assembly of the African Union in Sirte, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 3 July 2009, the Emergency Programme for Arab Food Security launched at the Arab Economic and Social Development Summit, held in Kuwait on 19 and 20 January 2009, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Food Security Reserve, and the Integrated Food Security Framework and Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations;

25. *Underscores* the importance of the initiatives and commitments undertaken by the international community to enhance development of the

[15] See A/63/740, annex.

agricultural sector and food security in developing countries, and of their full realization and implementation in a timely and reliable manner;

26. *Takes note* of the commitments made at the Group of Eight Summit held in L'Aquila, Italy, from 8 to 10 July 2009, to scale up actions and to act with urgency to achieve sustainable global food security,[16] and calls for the timely realization of the commitment to increase aid to agriculture and food security by 20 billion dollars over three years;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to it at its sixty-fifth session on developments related to issues highlighted in the present resolution.

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[16] See A/63/927-S/2009/358, annex.